SELECTIONS

PROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPUTANA, Received up to 8th February, 1887.

POLITICAL.

The Koh-i-Núr (Lahore), of the 5th February, is glad Abolition of slave-trade to say that, on the 7th November last, in Bukhara. the Amír of Bukhara issued a firman emancipating all slaves and abolishing slave trade in his kingdom. This clearly shows what a good effect the Russian Government, with all its faults as an absolute despotism, has produced on the character of the lawless and wild tribes of Central Asia during the short time that it has been brought in contact with them. But it is to be regretted that the British Government is unable to boast of making any improvement in the character of the Afgháns, although it has been in close connection with them for the last fifty years.

The same paper says that the list of delegates who National Congress and assembled at Calcutta during the late Musalmans. Christmas shows that the assembly was a National and not a Hindu Congress, as some persons call it with a view to under-rate its importance. The Hindus, Musalmans, Parsis, Native Christians, and Europeans were all represented at the Congress, the total number of delegates being 434. Thirty-three delegates were

Circulation, 450 copies.

Musalmáns, and looking at the Muhammadan population and the state of education among the Muhammadan community and the hostile attitude of some Muhammadan leaders to the Congress, this number cannot be considered small. Again, the Muhammadans who took part in the Congress were not inferior to its Muhammadan opponents in point of social position or education. The Koh then mentions the names of some of the former, such as Nawab Ghulam Rabani Sáhab of the ex-Royal Family of Mysore, Nawab Raza Ali Khán of Oudh, Saiyid Sharafu-l-din, Barrister-at-Law, &c., and observes that equally unfounded is the charge that the Congress was the work of professional agitators. None of the delegates attended the Congress from any sordid motives. They are all well-to-do persons and belong to different trades and professions: over 90 persons are landowners, more than 125 pleaders and barristers-at-law, about 20 traders, about 15 medical practitioners, and about an equal number professors and schoolmasters. Above all, the attendance at the Congress of Dr. Rajendra Lal Mittra and Roy Jaiprakásh Lál and some other gentlemen whose names were never heard before in connection with any political movement is a sufficient guarantee that the delegates had ne other object than the good of their country at heart.

Circulation,

The Dharam Jiwan (Lahore), of the 30th January, says that hundreds of ignorant persons refrain from going to charitable dispensaries for treatment because of a rumour spread by some people to the effect that doctors are rewarded by Government for killing patients. Similarly, some Musalmans keep their co-religionists from taking part in political movements, such as the National Congress set on foot by Hindus, by giving out that if the Hindus succeed in acquiring a large share in the administration, they will endeavour to exclude the Musalmans from the public service through religious prejudice. When a man cares only to promote the good of his own class, his views maturally become person and illiberal in course of time. Sayid Ahmed Khar and some other Musalmans have

lately come under this class of men. They advise Muhammadans to keep aloof from Hindus and to endeavour to win the goodwill of Anglo-Indians in the hope that in that case Government will be pleased with the Mussimans and will show special indulgence to them. But this is a mistake, and the Musalmens will ultimately repent this policy in the same way as they do at present their backwardness in education. They themselves will suffer much more than the Hindús from their not joining such political movements. Let them flatter Angle-Indians as much as they please, but the latter will still look down upon them as a subject race and will, in course of time, treat them with greater contempt than they do the Hindus. Hence the Muhammadans should co-operate in all auch matters with their Hindu brethren, who are embarked with them in the same boat, and should not foolishly lose the whole bread by endeavouring to secure to themselves a few crumbs. The objects and aims of the National Congress are equally beneficial to all classes of the people throughout the country, and therefore, if any class does not support the movement, it will only injure itself. Many right-thinking Musalmans already sympathize with the objects of the Congress, and it may be hoped that its opponents will soon find out their mistake and see their way to joining the movement.

The Panjak Akhoar (Lahore), of the 29th January, says that the Ahl-i-Hadis Musalmans are popularly confounded with Wahabis, who are the followers of Abdul Wahab of Nejd and are the enemies of the British Government, although the Hon'ble Dr. W. W. Hunter, the Hon'ble Saiyid Ahmad Khan, and Mirza Fatch Muhammad Beg have clearly shown in their books on the subject that the two classes of Musalmans are quite distinct from each other. Maulvi Muhammad Husain, editor of the Ashdatu-l-Sunnat, and a member of the Ahl-i-Hadis Sect, addressed a letter to the Secretary to the Panjah Government in May last, requesting that the term Wahabi should not be applied to the Muhammadans of his class in

Circulation,

official correspondence, and the Panjáb Government referred the matter to the Supreme Government, which have forbidden the use of the term in question in official papers. The Akhbár publishes the reply of the Panjáb Government to the Maulvi and the Government of India's orders, and asks other classes of Musalmáns to refrain from calling the Ahl-i-Hadís Musalmáns Wahábís in future; otherwise they may be criminally prosecuted for defamation.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation, 200 copies.

The Subodh Sindhu (Khandwá), of the 2nd February, adverting to Lord Reay's proposal

Establishment of Victoria Technical Institute at Bombay in honour of the Jubilee.

for the establishment of a Victoria Technical Institute at Bombay in honour of the Jubilee, and to the G

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subscriptions and donations already promised for the purpose, says that his Lordship cannot be too highly praised for the scheme, and asks the nobility and gentry of Bombay to come forward liberally on the occasion and make the scheme an accomplished fact.

Circulation, 120 copies.

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The Vritta Dhára (Dhár), of the 3rd February, urges
that the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India should devote
the donations, contributed by native princes in that part
of the country for the celebration of the Jubilee, to the
establishment of a college of arts or a good technical
school.

Circulation, 890 copies. The Nyaya Sudha (Harda), of the 2nd February, says

Jubilee and the Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

Vinces has prohibited the expenditure

of public funds on the celebration of the Jubilee of the Queen-Empress. Probably the prohibition extends to municipal funds, which are generally considered an integral portion of public funds. The Sudhá does not think that the orders have been issued by the Chief Commissioner with the consent of the Supreme Government. No other Local

Government has issued such orders, and the municipal boards in other provinces have sanctioned large sums to be expended on Jubilee celebrations. Properly speaking, municipal funds are not public funds, because they are not at the disposal of Government officers, but of municipal committees, which consist of the representatives of the people. Even supposing that municipal funds are public funds, any contributions from them to meet the expenses of such public festivities will not be unjustifiable. In fact, Government will not be justified in asking the people to celebrate the happy event in a befitting manner when it is not itself prepared to spend any money on the occasion. Under these circumstances, the Sudhá hopes the Chief Commissioner will cancel the prohibition and allow public and municipal funds to be devoted in a reasonable degree to the celebration of the Jubilee.

The Kavi Vachan Sudhá (Benares), of the 31st January, says that the question of Court lan-Court language. guage has already been frequently discussed, and that therefore it is unnecessary to again refer to the difficulties to which the people are exposed by the use of Urdu in Courts of justice and public offices. Although Hindi can fairly claim to be the lingua franca of these provinces, it has not been made the language of courts of justice, and boys who pass the anglo-vernacular middle class examination, taking Hindi as their second language, are even not eligible for admission to the public service. Urdu being written in Persian character and being full of Arabic and Persian terms, the people are unable to find out the contents of any vernacular papers they receive from a Government office without the aid of a good Persian scholar. The Urdu translation of the rules for the conduct of business in the new local Legislative Council, which has lately been published, is filled with Persian and Arabic terms, only the prepositions and most ordinary verbs being Hindi. The Sudhá will publish in its future issues the translation in Hindi character in order to show the truth of its statement. Sir Alfred Lyall would confer an

Circulation, 375 copies.

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inestimable been on these provinces if His Henor introduced.
Hindi in public offices and courts before his retirement.

Circulation, 240 copies.

The Azad (Lucknow), of the 4th February, adverting to the appointment of the three new Three Statutory Civilians appointed in the N.-W. P. Statutory Civilians in these provinces. and Oudh. says that it does not know Pandit Rámauter Pande, B.A., but it is well acquainted with Munshi Muhammad Ali, B.A., and Mr. Habib-ullah, Barrister-at-Law. The Munshi is a promising young man, and Mr. Habib-ullah is one of the two nephews of Maulvi Faridud-din who had been sent by him to England for education, and to whom he referred in his statement before the Public Service Commission. It is difficult to realize why Mr. Habib-ullah, whose education, as stated by the Maulvi before the Commission, had cost the latter a large sum, has accepted an Assistant Commissionership, even though he may get Rs. 300 instead of Rs. 200 a month. But other Native Barristers-at-law accepted even Munsifships before. However, it is a matter of satisfaction that Sir Alfred Lyall has made good nominations to the Native Civil Service. Had Sir George Couper, Bart., made equally good selections, the Statutory Civil Service would not have been condemned as a failure.

Circulation, 660 copies.

A correspondent of the Oudh Akhbar (Lucknow), of the 20th January, says that the state-Public Bervice Commisments made before the Public Service sion. Commission at Allahabad reflect great credit on the witnesses. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Oldfield and Mr. Benett specially deserved the gratitude of the native community for the liberal views expressed by them on the occasion. The writer is of opinion that the statutory weters should be maintained in its present shape, but that the Statutory Civilians should be allowtel the same rates of paying those recruited in England, because the spread of English education and Burquean civilization in this country has introduced whigh style of livings makines. The men appointed to the stabiltony mension should maide for one year at the head-quarters of the Legal Co.

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where they should leave work under the special supers vision of one or two experienced and sympathetic European Civilians and should mix freely with the latter and their families in order that they may learn European customs and manners, and the European Civilians may have an opportunity of judging of their character. There is no need for making residence in England compulsory for Statutory Civilians, but they should be encouraged to pay a visit to England to widen the sphere of their knowledge. They should be allowed special leave up to two years for the purpose, which should count as service and during which they should get full pay. They should be also paid travelling expenses. As regards the rules for the competitive examination held in England, the only change necessary is an increase in the limit of age, which the writer would fix at 24. He would recruit the subordinate executive and subordinate judicial services from among natives, inasmuch as the rates of pay allowed to the members of the services would be inadequate for the expenses of Europeans, and Europeans are unacquainted with native customs and manners. If Europeans and Eurasians are admitted to the services in question, they should be required to obtain the anglo-vernacular middle class examination certificate, and should not be appointed Deputy Collectors at once, but should as a rule begin with peshkarships like natives. The writer is glad to say that the highest European Magistrates have borne testimony to the capacity of natives for administering civil justice satisfactorily; but he does not see why they are not considered equally well qualified to dispense criminal justice. When they understand civil law very well, it is not clear why they should be unable to understand criminal law. The writer thinks that the unsatisfactory administration of crimined justice by Natine Manistrates may be due to the undue interference of District Magistrates and Superintendents of Polices and urger that Native Magistrates should have full freedom in deciding cases like native divid officers to understand why nativ

considered incapable of keeping secrets. This is a misapprehension, as is evident from their conduct during the mutiny.

Circulation, 300 copies.

A correspondent of the Panjabi Akhbar (Lahore); of the Promotion of Tahsildars 29th January, says that when the and Munsifs to Extra subjects of examination are the same Assistant Commissionerfor Extra Assistant Commissioners, ships, Panjab. Tahsildars, and Munsifs in the Panjab, he does not understand why Tahsildars and Munsifs, who, as such, have already passed the examination are examined over again in the same subjects if they desire to make themselves eligible for Extra Assistant Commissionerships. Moreover, it should be remembered that they are very hard-worked officials and can scarcely get any time for study. Government should promote those among them who have performed their duties well to Extra Assistant Commissionerships without subjecting them to any further examination.

Circulation, 240 copies.

The Azád (Lucknow), of the 4th February, says that it is believed that the district authorities Income-tax. at Lucknow do not think that the income-tax has been properly assessed in that district. There is no doubt that the assessment of the tax is very difficult, and the assessors must admit that their assessments are often mere guess-work. The officers should be always ready to correct mistakes in assessment. They should especially see that small traders who have less than the minimum taxable income are not taxed, because the tax must press heavily on such people. Some officers do not approve of the levy of the tax from prostitutes and dancing-girls, but the Azad thinks that the more heavily they are assessed the better. Since the abolition of rules for the prevention of the spread of venereal diseases, their number has largely increased at every place. The initial of the place of the parties to her

Circulation, 2,200 copies. The Bharat Jiwan (Benares), of the 31st Japuary, gives an account of the interference of the Puri case.

Magistrate of Cuttak with the temple of Jagan Nath at Puri and highly disapproves of his proceedings. (The Suboda Sindha, Khandwa, of the 2nd February,

condemns the interference of the Magistrate as opposed to the Royal Proclamation of 1858, and hopes the Government of India will settle the matter in a satisfactory manner.)

A correspondent of the Punjabi Akhbar (Lahore), of the Treatment of native 2nd February, says that it is useless to convicts in jails. ask Government to treat native convicts in jails in exactly the same way in which it does European convicts, to the entire disregard of race distinctions. But at least greater indulgence should be shown to convicts who are sent to prison for the first time than to habitual criminals both in the matter of labour and food, clothing and lodgings. It is unjust to treat the former with the same severity as the latter. When the law itself distinguishes between the two classes, there seems to be no reason why the jail discipline should not.

LEGISLATION.

The Azad (Lucknow), of the 4th February, in commenting on the Bengal Civil Courts Bill, Bengal Civil Courts Bill. says that, under Act VI of 1871, the Subordinate Judges and Munsifs had the power to appoint and dismiss their ministerial officials. But the new Bill transfers the power of appointment of such officials to District Judges. The change has been introduced at the instance of Mr. C. J. Daniell, late District and Sessions Judge of Moradabad, on the ground that in that case the officials would have a wider field for promotion. But the A.dd is afraid that the measure, far from improving their prospects, will make them worse. The District Judge cannot be expected to be well acquainted with the ministerial officials in all the subordinate courts under his jurisdiction, and therefore he will not be able to make proper appointments and promotions. His patronage will be confined to men who are known to him or who are recommended to him by his friends, while deserving officials will be left out. The state of things will become as ausatisfactory in the civil courts as it is already in the revenue courts. It will be remembered that Mn White, the Deputy Commissioner of Bara

Circulation, 300 copies.

Constitution (Constitution)

Circulations
240 copies-

Circulation, 2,200 echies. Banki, appointed Munshi Nawib Ali, Vakil, as a Tahsilder in utter disregard of the claims of old officials in the district. When a loud clamour was raised against the appointment, the Local Government removed the Munshi from the office and promoted an old Peshkar to it. Maulvi Sami-ul-lah Khan, District Judge of Rae Bareli, dismissed many officials of his court simply in order to make room for his men, but they were all reinstated by the Judicial Commissioner on appeal. Such cases will frequently occur when the power of appointing ministerial officials in the subordinate courts will be concentrated in the hands of the District Judge. The present arrangement has hitherto worked well and should be maintained. The Subordinate Judges and Munsifs make appointments and promotious in their courts, subject to confirmation by the District Judge.

NATIVE STATES.

Circulation

The Rajputana Gazetta (Ajmere), of the 31st January,

Mr. Henvey, Resident says that the conduct of Residents in native states is most unjustifiable and a disgrace to the British Government.

The Residents are intended to be merely the channel of correspondence between the native princes and the Government of India and to decide those cases in which British subjects and native states are concerned. But as they are generally military officers, and as the native princes, who are generally uneducated, show great respect to them and readily supply them with elephants, horses, carriages, and other things gratis, their brains are turned and they consider themselves as the lords of all they survey. The worst is that the Government of India at once makes them Justices of the Peace and invests them with the powers of a first class Magi trate. Their decisions are often a travesty of justice. In Jaipur a respectable native lost his luggage at a carái near the railway-station. Mr. Henvey, Resident, first gave him a decree against the accused, but afterwards he cancelled his own orders under the advice of his office subordinates. Again, it appears from the Ladian Daily New that a call

entered the compound of a Ruropean railway official, named Baker, at Phalera at night and began to injure the garden. In order to drive out the animal Mr. Baker beat it. The animal was severely hurt and died. Mr. Henvey sentenced the accused to three months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50, saying that he had committed a serious offence, inasmuch as kine were considered sacred by the people in Rajputana, and consequently his misbehaviour was likely to cause a disturbance of the peace. Now it should be observed that only three weeks before this sentence was passed by Mr. Henvey on Mr. Baker, he had himself put up seven kine in the forest at Madhopur to attract a tiger on the occasion of his tiger-shooting, and all these seven kine were killed by the tiger. Obviously Mr. Henvey, who was responsible for the destruction of the seven kine, was guilty of a much more serious offerce than Mr. Baker, who killed one calf. be remembered that when Mr. Henvey was Resident in Kashmír, he stabled his horse and allowed his servants to prepare his food in the church at Gulmarg, and the church caught fire in consequence. He is by no means qualified for such a high office.

The Aftab-i-Panjab (Lahore), of the 4th February, is surprised at the violent attack made by the Indian Daily News on the Resident at Jaipur for sentencing to three months' imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 one Mr. Baker, who had killed a calf with a lance. No European is justified in killing a cow within the dominions of a Hindu prince, who has full powers in his State and considers kine as sacred animals. The News should have censured Mr. Baker for his misbehaviour instead of showing sympathy with him.

A correspondent of the Delki Punch (Lahore), of the Heavy assessment of had 26th January, complains of the severe revenue in Rampur.

and gives a list of lessees who paid Rs 10,000 or more a year each on account of land revenue, but who became bankrupt during the last eight years, and who consequently were

Circulation, 500 copies.

Circulation, 815 copies. thrown in prison or fled from the State in order to escape incarceration and persecution. The list contains more than 40 names, and the writer observes that the number of the smaller lessees who were ruined during the period was much greater.

A correspondent of the same paper, of the 2nd February, Future administration of writing from Bareilly, says that the Rámpur. Nawab of Rampur is past recovery and has been given up by both European doctors and native physicians, while the heir-apparent has received no education, is a man of immoral character, and indeed is mad. Hence His Highness would do well to make some satisfactory arrangement for the management of the affairs of the State, in order that no difficulties may arise after his death. The writer is of opinion that the Nawab should conciliate his brother Haidar Ali Khán and appoint him Regent, or establish a Council of State, consisting of experienced and able officers, to conduct the administration. The only other alternative is the making over of the administration to the Government of India.

Circulation, 500 copies.

The Aftab-i-Panjab (Lahore), of the 2nd February, highly praises Diwan Lachman Das for his Appointment of Diwan ability and approves of his promotion Lachman Das as Prime ability and approves of his promotion to the office of Prime Minister. He has rightly first directed his attention to the reduction of expenditure, with a view to improve the condition of the State treasury. (The Khair-Khwah-i-Kashmir, Lahore, of the 3rd February, approves of the elevation of Diwan Lachman Das to the Prime Ministership).

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Circulation, 350 copies. The Rafiu-l-Akhbár (Benares), of the 31st January, Practice of killing pariah approves of the practice of killing pariah dogs, but finds fault with the way in which the brutes are killed. At many places in these provinces the sweepers attack the animals in public streets and thoroughfares and belabour them with sticks

until they are dead. The custom is a revolting one and should be put a stop to. At Benares dogs are captured by sweepers in streets and thoroughfares and carried to a place outside the city for execution. But the sweepers treat them with great cruelty on the way, to the great annoyance of the people in the streets. The Magistrate should see to this.

The Prayág Samáchár (Allahabad), of the 5th February, is at a loss to understand why Prayág-Prayágwáls forbidden to wals and their servants are not allow-receive pilgrims, Allahabad. ed to go to the railway-station to receive pilgrims, and complains that consequently the latter experience much difficulty and trouble in finding the Prayág-wals with whom they desire to stay during their sojourn at Allahabad, and are sometimes even cheated by swindlers.

Circulation, 550 copies.

The Almora Akhbar, of the 31st January, on the authoDharamshalas in Kumaun rity of a correspondent, is glad to say and Garhwal. that there are good dharamshalas in Garhwal. The houses have large rooms and are always to be found in a very clean state. On the other hand, the rooms in the dharamshalas in Kumaun are very small, and also they are never properly cleaned. It would be well if these buildings were improved.

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Circulation, 102 copies.

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CONTENTS.

POLITICAL,

			•			Page.
England, Turkey, a	and the Vas	fr-i-Hind 1	rewabsper	•••		97
	GENERA	L ADMI	NISTRATIO	N.		
Jails	- •••	•••	•••	•••	•••	98
Suggested establish vinces and Oudh				rth-Weste	m Pro-	99
Suggested establish ration of the Jul		n Orphans	ge at Cawn	ore in con	memo-	99
Establishment of s	technical	school at J	abalpur	•••	•••	100
Jubilee memorials		•••	•••		•••	100
Jubilee				•••	•••	100
Quarrel between that Ballia	e Magistre	te and the	Jubilee Celeb	ration Cor	nmittee	100
Appointment of	Mr. Badsh	h as Post	master-Gener	ral in the	North-	
Western Province	308 ***	•••	•••	• •••	•••	101
Ditto	dit	to	ditto		•••	102
Púri case	•••	•••		•••	•••	102
Establishment of s	Native Ch	amber of	Commerce at	Calcutta	•••	.103
Assaults on Gover	nment offic	ers at Alla	habad	01	•••	103
Mr. Cadell, Additi			STATE OF THE STATE	***		108
Appointment of University				r of the	Panjáb	108

					PAGE
aw examination of the Pa	njáb Universi	by		•••	103
ase of Shaikh Mihr Ali,		•••	•••	•••	104
appointment of a new teach	oher in the Agr	ra College	•••	•••	105
	LEGISLA	TION.	1	1	
Bengal Civil Courts Bill		•••		•••	105
Panjáb Tenancy Bill	***	•••	•••	••••	106
POST	OFFICE AN	D RAILW	AY.		
Sub-postmasters ,	•	•••	•••	400	106
Hardwar Bailway	411	•••	•••	•••	107
	LOCA	L.			
Magh Mela, Allahabad	•••	•••	•••	•	107
Human corpses forbidden	to be thrown	into the rive	rs, Allahabad		107

Logical and a hamon together described

691